in accordance with income tax amendment order with effect from 1-4-1989. Indian Airlines has stated that the exemption from payment of tax on these allowances had been given by Central Board of Director Taxes (CBDT) vide its various circulars issued during 1974 to 1977. The matter has been taken up by Indian Airlines with the tax authorities for issue of suitable clarification.

Damage by Air India's man in Germany

23. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to the news report which appeared in the Economic Times of the 15th November, 1993, under the caption "Air India's man in Germany does the damage";

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what is Government's reaction thereto ;

(c) whether any disciplinary action has been initiated against the outgoing Manager of Air India's German operation for his reported acts of indiscipline that caused damage to the reputation of the national airline ; if not, the reasons thereof ; and

(d) the details of the measures taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents in other places ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On 20-5-1993, Air India issued an order transferring its Manager at Frankfurt to Muscat in Oman. He took recourse to various dilatory tactics and eventually handed over charge to his successor on 10-11-93.

(c) and (d) A Show Cause Notice has been served on the officer asking for his explanation, receipt of which is awaited. This misdeamnour on the part of the officer was an unusual case. Air India management would deal with such cases firmly in accordance with service regulations.

Merger of International Airports Authority and National Airports Authority

24. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to merge the International Airports Authority and the National Airports Authority in the near future and a Bill to this effect has been introduced in the Parliament ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that International Airports Authority is earning profits whereas National Airports Authority is incurring losses since its inception which causes apprehensions that the earnings of International Airports Authority will be consumed by the National Airports Authority which will be detrimental to the progress of airports in the Country ;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof ;

(e) whether Government propose to drop the idea of merging these two Authorities ; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) A Bill has been introduced in the Parliament on 23-8-1993 for merger of International Airport Authority of India (IAAI) and National Airports Authority (NAA).

(c) to (f) International Airports Authority of India has been consistently making profits. The details of profits/loss of NAA since its inception are as under :—

Year	Profit/Loss (+) (—) (Rs. in crores)
1986-87	(—) 13.86
1987-88	(—) 16.51
1988-89	(—) 16.13
1989-90	(—) 2.96
1990-91	(—) 23.19
1991-92 (Provisional)	(+) 17.72
1992-93 (Provisional)	(+) 11.76
1993-94 (Budget Estima	(+) 17.33

Decision to merge the two Authorities has been taken to derive the following advantages :

(i) Merger would facilitate better mobilisation and utilisation of resources for integrated development of airports.

(ii) It would provide for closer integration, better administration and cohesive management of airports, aeronautical communications and air transport management services.

(iii) The expertise developed in various fields in the two organisations can be pooled for improved efficiency.

(iv) With the proposed unification, it would be possible to avoid overlap, enable better deployment and secure more efficient utilisation of the manpower.

(v) Integrated development of airport facilities would be the responsibility of a single Authority having better command over resources.

The merger Bill which currently is before the Parliamentary Committee on Transport and Tourism, is expected to be taken up for consideration by the Parliament in the current session.

Introduction of pension scheme for the employees of I.A.

25. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) what is the present status of Pension scheme for the employees of Indian Airlines which had been submitted to Government for further necessary approvals in 1990-91 ;

(b) what is the outcome thereof ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the management of Indian Airlines have earlier collected monthly collections on account of Pension from 1977 ;

(d) if so, the total amount so collected ;

(e) whether Government propose to introduce this scheme for employees as retirement benefit ;

(f) if so, what are the detail thereof; and

(g) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) No pension scheme was submitted to the Government for approval in 1990-91.

(c) and (d) The Indian Airlines management did not collect any money from its employees on this account. However, a provision to the tune of Rs. 18.88 crores was made during the period 1978-79 to 1987-88 towards the contribution of Indian Airlines for introduction of the pension scheme.

(e) to (g) There is no such proposal at present; Indian Airlines employees are covered under benefits of Contributory Provident Fund Scheme.

Survey for Air Traffic in domestic sector

26. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have conducted any study/survey of the market potential for passengers/goods air traffic in domestic sector ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether Government are aware of such surveys done by some private carriers that have entered the market in the last three years ;

(d) If so, the details thereof ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) In order to make a realistic assessment of domestic air passenger traffic upto the year 2000, a Committee